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Notices

As we head into the new year, here's a quick reminder of our office and grounds access hours:

Phone Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:

9am – 4pm

Thursday: **10am – 4pm**

Reception Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:

9am – 5pm

Thursday: **10am – 5pm**

Grounds Access

Please note the **Ranford Road gate is locked from 4pm on weekdays.**

For evening access, **use the Warton Road gate.**

We look forward to another great year with our members and their dogs! 🐾

 **Avoid Extra Fees – Submit Your Dogs West Paperwork On Time!**

December Governing Council Meeting Update

Your Governing Council met for the last meeting of 2025 this week and following are the key points from the meeting for members' information.

Welcome to Our New Members

Council approved 14 new memberships this month — Welcome to the Dogs West community.

Event Start Times

Council noted the approval of dispensations to support upcoming country club events:

- Bunbury & Districts Dog Club was granted a dispensation from Regulation B23.4.1 for their Open Show on 8 February 2026, with a 9:00am start time approved.
- Albany All Breeds Dogs Club was granted dispensations from Regulations B23.4.1 and B23.4.2 for events on 14–15 February 2026, with approved early start times

litter registrations—on time is the best way to avoid unnecessary penalties. Under Dogs West regulations, litters must be registered within four months of birth. After that, late fees apply per puppy, per month at a rate of \$60 each.

For example, a litter of two puppies submitted one month late will incur \$120 in penalties. After six months, registrations require written justification and must be approved by the Dogs West Administrative Officer.

Incomplete forms or incorrect payments may also attract a \$35 Incorrect Paperwork Fee, so please double-check everything before submitting. If you're unsure about any part of your application, contact the office—we're here to help!

Want more information? Check out our full article [here](#).

A further review of the relevant regulations will be undertaken, with recommendations to return to Council in January.

Awards & Policy

A new annual award, Top Rally Dog of the Year, will be added to the Dogs West Top Dog Awards, with the first qualification period commencing July 2026 and the inaugural award presented in 2027.

Council approved the Dogs West CCTV Policy, which will now proceed to the Finance Committee to consider associated fees and charges prior to implementation.

Regulation Change

Your Governing Council is committed to the constant review and update of Regulations to ensure they are relevant.

- A key change this month was the removal of the restriction on the time for release of Catalogues for sanctioned events, bringing our Regulation into line with that of Dogs Australia.

Australia

Find the Latest News from Dogs Australia on their website [here](#).

“Be the person your Dog thinks you are”

Our community thrives on our shared love of dogs, engaging discussions, and mutual support. However, we have noticed an increase in online bullying and inappropriate comments. To ensure a safe and welcoming space for our staff and all our members, we would like to remind everyone of the importance of respectful communication in online forums, social media pages, and discussion groups.

✅ **Be Kind & Respectful** – Think before you post or comment. Is it helpful? Is it kind?

✅ **Follow Dogs West Code of Ethics** – Our code of conduct applies online too.

✅ **Report, Don't Engage** – If you see inappropriate behaviour, report it instead of responding.

The Dogs West Open Day 2026 Budget was approved, supporting planning for this key event in the Dogs West calendar.

Judges Training for 2026

The conveners for the 2026 Conformation Judges Training scheme were ratified. We wish all the continuing and new Trainees the best of luck for the coming training year.

Dogs West Governing Council remains committed to good governance, transparency, and supporting our clubs and canine community.

Appointment of Dogs West General Manager

I am pleased to announce that recruitment for a General Manager for Dogs West has been completed.

Following a comprehensive recruitment process one application was recommended to go forward to Governing

We encourage members to be role models in our online community. Support others, offer constructive feedback, and help us build a space that reflects the values of our association.

Upcoming Events

Find all our Upcoming Events online [here](#).



At a Special Meeting of Governing Council last Monday night, a joint application from Ms Caroline Shaw and Ms Sarah Baldwin was accepted and endorsed.

Sarah and Caroline will undertake the role on a job share basis commencing in the New Year. They bring extensive experience with the Association and complementary skills sets to the role.

Governing Council and the Dogs West staff look forward to working with them.

Pamela Campbell

PRESIDENT DOGS WEST



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